THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Committee constituted by the Government to look into the issue of revision of royalty rates has submitted its report to the Government. The report of the Committee contains recommendations on issues relevant to rcyision of royalty rates on coal. Consultation with various concerned Ministries and Departments on important issues like revision of royalty rates of coal is an unavoidable pari of decision-making process in the Government and the outcome of the consultations on revision of royalty rates of coal can he known only after a decision is taken by the Government.

Recommendations of GoM on merger of subsidiaries of CIL

1069. SHRI RUMANDLA RAMACHANDRAIAH Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether in order to increase efficiency of the core sector, the Union Government is considering merging of seven subsidiaries of Coal India Limited;

(b) if so, whether the Group of Ministers headed by the Finance Minister was considering this issue;

(c) if so, by when the Group of Ministers is likely to submit its recommendations; and

(d) by when, the final decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (d) A proposal for amalgamation of all subsidiary companies of Coal India Limited into one company was deliberated by a Group of Ministers headed by the Finance Minister. Consequent upon such deliberations, the Government have not favoured merging of the subsidiaries of Coal India Limited into one company, keeping in view the larger interest of efficiency, productivity and competition.